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one side than the other. That the protrusion of roots on one side had nothing to do with eccentricity, was also clear from the fact that he had examined Symphoria, Wistaria, and many other things with rooting, creeping branches on the ground, in all of which the wood was perfectly concentric.

Notes on two Traps; A Case of Alteration of Earthy Sediments.—Prof. PERSIFOR FRAZER, Jr., remarked, that, at a previous meeting of the Academy the occurrence of a vein of quartz in a mass of dolerite had been described. The specimen has been since cut in two by a lapidary in such a manner as to illustrate (1) the central band of quartz (part of which appears to be hyaline and part anhydrous) inclosing numerous small fragments of the adjoining dolerite. (2) Two bands of darker color than the mass of the latter, which appear to form the boundary walls between the vein and the dyke which it intersects. (3) A broad margin of unaltered dolerite on either side. This specimen is presented for the inspection of the Academy.

The whole subject of the origin and true nature of "traps," and the means of distinguishing those which have been cooled from a molten mass from those which are indurated, baked, or altered to crystalline rocks from earthy sediments by the proximity of sources of heat, is one yet involved in much obscurity. I have here a specimen of what appears to be a baked sandstone belonging to the New Red Formation, in which a part of the mass, occupying an irregular space in one of its ends, has become a coarsely crystallized syenite. The specimen was obtained from near Harman's blacksmith shop, in the northern and western part of York County.

Notes on some Palæozoic Limestones.—Prof. PERSIFOR FRAZER, Jr., remarked that among the many interesting chemical problems connected with geology is that of the relation of a percentage of magnesia to the mode of formation and age of the limestones of the world. Not only have some very interesting speculations been made as to the condition of the earth's crust during the production of dolomites (see T. S. Hunt's Chemical and Geological Essays), but it is easy to see that the subject is capable of very large development.

One of the lines of investigation chief in importance is the influence which dolomitic limestone must exercise on the topography of a country. Prof. Lesley has shown that the grand effects of erosion can be explained by the slow solution and destruction of the limestones of the earth below water level, with the consequent caving in of the strata which rest on them.

It is easy to see that different kinds of effects would be produced by the rapid waste of pure carbonate of lime and the slower destruction of magnesian or dolomitic rocks. And the result of